

THE LEADING HOTELS, ETC., OF SAN FRANCISCO.—San Francisco is not surpassed by any city in the United States, and probably by very few in the world, in the size, number, and excellence of its hotels. There are seven of them, in addition to the new Palace Hotel, now in course of erection. It will be the largest and most costly of them. The seven hotels alluded to have accommodations for two thousand one hundred and fifty guests. The value of the land on which they stand is nearly \$3,000,000; the buildings cost \$1,365,000, and their furniture nearly \$825,000. The rents paid by their landlords is from \$1,000 to \$4,000 per month. The largest of our present hotels has accommodations for four hundred guests. Their rates of board are from \$2 to \$3 per day. The number of hotels of all grades is sixty-five; of buildings devoted in whole or in part to lodgings, five hundred and twenty; occupied as boarding and lodging houses, three hundred and eighty.

RATES OF INTEREST AT THE SAVINGS BANKS, ETC.—The ten savings banks of San Francisco had, in the beginning of the present year, fifty-one thousand eight hundred and seven depositors, and deposits amounting to \$47,362,555, or an average of about \$910 to each depositor. These banks loan mostly on city and country real estate securities of the safest and most productive character. Their rates of interest range from eight to nine and a half per cent. per annum on city loans, and ten to eleven per cent. on country loans.

United States Mint and Post-Office.

THE UNITED STATES MINT, MINING, ETC.—The San Francisco Mint is no longer, as formerly denominated, a "branch" mint. By the Coinage Act of 1873 it was rendered independent of, because it has become far more important than, the old parent Mint at Philadelphia, to which ours has heretofore, officially, been but supplementary. During the year 1873 the following classes of coin were turned out of the Mint here: One million forty thousand six hundred double eagles—value, \$20,812,000; twelve thousand single eagles—value, \$120,000; thirty-one thousand half eagles—value, \$155,000; twenty-seven thousand quarter eagles—value, \$67,500. Total number of *gold coins* made, one million one hundred and ten thousand six hundred—total value, \$21,154,500. *Silver Coins*: Seven hundred American dollars—value, \$700; seven hundred and three thousand trade dollars—value, \$703,000; two hundred and thirty-three thousand half dollars—value, \$116,500; one hundred and fifty-six thousand quarter dollars—value, \$39,000; four hundred and thirty-five thousand dimes—value, \$45,500; three hundred and twenty-four thousand half dimes—value, \$16,200. Total number of *silver coins*, one million eight hundred and seventy-one thousand seven hundred—total value, \$920,900. Combined gold and silver pieces of all denominations coined in 1873, two million nine hundred and eighty-one thousand three hundred. Total combined value, \$22,075,400. The total coinage of 1873 shows an increase of \$5,727,956 over that of 1872. The importance and capacity of the San Francisco Mint is greatly restricted by the small and unsuitable building in which its operations are now conducted. The New Mint, a spacious and stately structure occupying the lot, two hundred and seventy-five feet square, on the corner of Fifth and Mission streets, will soon be completed and occupied. When finished, the business of the Pacific Coast, in connection with coinage, will be greatly facilitated. The San Francisco Mint is already the most important in the United States. The business of mining for the precious metals, next to agriculture, is the most important industry on the coast; yet, in twenty years hence, twenty mines will be developed and worked where now there is but one. This prediction can be made with safety, without any allowance for new discoveries in the interim. The veins and lodes already discovered and partially tested will, of themselves, suffice to cause this increase; while, remembering the vast districts in California, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, and Montana, which are yet both undeveloped and unexplored, positive assurance is given that mining on this coast, vast as its present proportions are, is yet but in its infancy. The value of this fact to the agricultural and manufacturing interests is very great. In no portion of the world do the great industries of farming, mining, and manufacturing become of greater value, or act as more stable supports to each other than in California.

THE POSTAL FACILITIES OF SAN FRANCISCO.—Among the leading post-offices of the United